

Shaw III - World Trade Center (Italy)

SHAW

III (World Trade Center - Italy)

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March 18, 1967

NATIONAL GUARDIAN 9

NEW ORLEANS D.A. CHARGES CONSPIRACY

## New questions raised on JFK killing

By Robert L. Allen

THE COMPLICATED skein of events involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy became even more tangled with the arrest March 1 of Clay L. Shaw, described in the press as "a prominent New Orleans businessman."

New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, who made the arrest, contended in a search warrant that at secret meetings in September, 1963, "there was an agreement and combination among Clay Shaw (alias Clay Bertrand), Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie and others to kill John F. Kennedy."

AT GUARDIAN press time a preliminary hearing concerning this contention was in progress.

Shaw said at a press conference March 2 that he had played no part in an alleged conspiracy and he denied that he had ever met with or known Oswald or Ferrie. He said that he had never used the name "Clay Bertrand."

Ferrie, a former airlines pilot and alleged homosexual, was found dead in his bed Feb. 23. Garrison called the death a suicide; a coroner attributed it to natural causes.

THE GUARDIAN HAS received reports from Rome linking Shaw with various right-wing organizations and individuals, and possibly with the CIA. The GUARDIAN's Rome correspondent, Phyllis Roemer, quoting the Rome daily Paese Sera, reported that from 1961 till 1966 Shaw was on the board of directors of the Centro Mondiale Commerciale, which the paper said was engaged in obscure dealings in Rome.

Among the directors on the CMC board, said Paese Sera, were several Swiss businessmen and bankers, the ex-Hungarian Peasant Party leader Ferenc Nagy, now living in the U.S.; Prince Guilermo de Spadaforo, large Italian landowner and industrialist who is related by marriage to Hitler's "financial wizard" Hjalmar Schacht; and Dr. Enrico Mantello, who represented himself and six other shareholders, the most important being former U.S. Army Major L.M. Bloomfield, now reportedly a banker in London.

Bloomfield is reported to have served in the OSS (which was the predecessor of the CIA) during World War II. French newspapers have charged, the Rome daily said, that he was a generous contributor to neo-fascist groups in France, Italy and throughout Europe.

Paese Sera said it is believed that the CIA set up by the CIA as a cover for channeling funds into Italy.

THE GUARDIAN ALSO REPORTED to the press from a source in New Orleans that Shaw was instrumental in arranging for Batista's Cuba from 1934 to 1935 for 13 years until 1965 he was a director of the Inter-American Mart in New Orleans, which was reported to have arranged for the first trade delegation from U.S. to South Africa.

Shaw played a part in arranging to speak at the funeral on Nov. 22, 1963, of the assassination—a fact which determined the fatal route from the Dallas airport.

The name "Clay Bertrand" figures in the report of the Warren Commission's 1964 investigation. Dean Andrews, a lawyer in the New Orleans area, testified that Oswald and several homosexuals, whom he described as "Mexicanos," were sent to his law office in the summer of 1963 by a person named "Clay Bertrand." Andrews said that Oswald wanted help in getting his dishonorable discharge from the Marines changed to an honorable discharge.

Andrews told the Commission that on Nov. 23, 1963, "Bertrand" called him and asked him to go to Dallas to defend Oswald. Andrews said he was hospitalized and under sedation at the time. He said he called another New Orleans attorney, Monk Zeiden, since he was unable to go to Dallas himself.

THE FBI COULD FIND no record of Oswald's visit to Andrews or locate the person who allegedly called Andrews, although it did confirm that Andrews and Zeiden had talked about representing Oswald.



CLAY SHAW  
Businessman arrested

Andrews was said to have given conflicting descriptions of "Bertrand" to the FBI and the Commission, and at one point he reportedly told the FBI that Bertrand was a "figment of imagination."

According to Mark Lane in Rush to Judgment, Andrews said he was so hounded by FBI agents—"like the plague"—that he told them "to write whatever they wanted in their report and to close their file on him. The agents evidently closed the file by writing that Andrews acknowledged that Bertrand did not exist, despite the fact that Andrews swore that he had never made such a statement."

Andrews also said he saw "Bertrand" only twice and that "Bertrand" was "mostly a voice on the phone."

Shaw, in the March 2 news conference, said that he knew of Andrews but was not personally acquainted with him.

ANDREWS WAS QUESTIONED by Garrison March 2. Afterward, Andrews told reporters he had talked with "Bertrand" by telephone 10 or 12 times in a year. He said "Bertrand" sent boys to him for legal representation. If the defendants were unable to pay the attorney's fee, he said, "Bertrand" would.

Andrews said he "didn't know" whether "Bertrand" and Shaw were the same man. The New York Post quoted him March 2 as saying he "couldn't say for sure."

The same day Acting Attorney General Ramsey Clark said that, on the basis of an investigation in November-December 1963, by the FBI, "no connection" was established between Shaw and the Kennedy assassination. The Clark statement makes it clear that Shaw was the subject of an inquiry; yet Shaw's name is not mentioned once in the 29 volumes of the Warren Commission Report nor in other documents in the National Archives related to the assassination. There is testimony only concerning "Clay Bertrand."

A Justice Department official told reporters that his agency was convinced that "Bertrand" and Shaw were one and the same, and that this was the basis for Clark's statement.

ANOTHER ASPECT of the New Orleans investigation involves Cuban exiles. Several exiles in Miami and one who was a prisoner in a Louisiana state prison apparently have been questioned by Garrison's investigators.

A source in Garrison's office told the New York Post March 3 that investigations had been made at two sites in the New Orleans area which reportedly had been used by the CIA to train Cuban exiles for the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

It was also been arrested summer of 1964 Play for Cuba told police an member of th Fair Play, wh such branch, tered by the N apparently was

STRANGELY person looking also reported Cubans in the This brings in theory advanc Whitewash. alleged conspi a false Oswald promising situ cate the real

The alleged search warrant obtained from who was said secret meeting ber, 1963. Th mant was re sodium penti serum." It w tility of this in

[Note: This arrest about [N.O.P.D.] is a public record + Raymond Halbiglund should still be around.]

Note: Dean Andrews was sub-

quently committed of Payson in New Orleans for long to the Grand Jury in this regard.

Note: Upon being

arrested by my office, when asked by the looking officer (Raymond Halbiglund) whether he had any alibi, Shaw replied "Clay Bertrand."

JS



at the March 14 hearing.

In the meantime, Shaw is free on \$10,000 bail. Louisiana law provides a penalty of up to 20 years for conspiracy to murder.

THERE IS MUCH speculation as to what will be the eventual outcome of the Garrison investigation. A special GUARDIAN correspondent writes from New Orleans:

"Both federal officials and local papers, as well as Dallas officials, are trying to discredit Garrison. And to some degree, at least locally, they are successful.

"Garrison is a headstrong and determined individual and the feeling is he will not bave in. However, he might be pressured into taking the case to court prematurely before he has time to develop his evidence and implicate all the suspected parties.

"If the establishment is not successful in intimidating and pressuring Garrison, it is possible they will try to pressure the informants and witnesses.

"The question that remains is, how will Garrison hurdle the jurisdictional and other barriers which prevent him from carrying the investigation to Dallas and even further?"

Shaw & World Trade Center

Shaw's intelligence activity  
in Italy (1958-1962)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Boardman  
FROM: Mr. Boardman  
DATE: March 24th

Shaw Boardman

TRANSLATION (ROUGH) OF FRENCH NEWSPAPER ARTICLE:

THE ITALIAN PRESS REVEALS THAT CLAY SHAW, IMPLICATED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY, HAS WORKED IN ROME FOR THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Rome, March 7. The Italian press reveals that the C.I.A. used for its activities in Italy the man on whom rests the grave accusation of conspiring to assassinate Kennedy. Clay Shaw has in fact spent several years in Rome, where he worked for the World Trade Center, specializing in the financing of political groups considered to be "intransigent anticommunists."

Shaw or his agents had succeeded in establishing tight relations with deputies of the Christian Democrat, Social Democrat and MSI (neofascist) parties.

The WTC offered to certain of these delegates--who accepted--posts of responsibility in their organization, whose "serious business" in commercial matters is illustrated by the fact that in five years it ~~has~~ changed its president and director ten times.

Through the directors of the center, Shaw came into contact with the fascist groups of the capital, thus following the directives of the CIA.

The parent organization of the Rome Center--the "Permanent Industrial Exhibition" (Pernidex) of Basel--became famous by financing Soustelle and the CAS.\* The Italian branch repeated this operation by using in addition to Shaw, another American who had belonged to the OSS, Major Bloomfield.

In connection with this, the ITALIAN PRESS emphasizes, that the WTC was concerned with much more important things than simple commercial operations. The organization "Pernidex" has been openly accused by the Swiss press of criminal activity. The questions posed to the Swiss government by the deputies about this subject have not been answered.

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

*Q Much more info here...*

Yet it is evident, they say in Rome, that Pernice and its 3 representatives in Italy are nothing else than camouflages for a subsidiary of the CIA.

*Pernice*

*Q* Shaw had been sent to Italy from New Orleans where he was deputy adviser to the International Trade Mart. He arrived in Rome in 1958, as shown in the "bulletin of legal announcements for the province of Rome", dated August 14, 1958. He was coopted ~~by~~ to the administrative council of the WTC, which was presided over at this time by a Christian Democrat, Carlo d'Amelio, who along with his title of "chief adviser and governor" of the Bank of Italy, had also that of president of four other societies.

This same year, 1958, the WTC had relations with certain people who were proud of the reactionary intransigence, such as Giuseppe Zigiotti, president of the "Associazione Nazionale Arma Milizia" (Fascist), and the prince Gutieres di Spadafora, relative of Schacht, Hitler's great Finance Minister.

The center had a very vague social excuse: "Commercial activities of all kinds". It closed down three years ago, but had <sup>it</sup> opened another headquarters in Johannesburg to finance extremist groups in South Africa.

In Italy there have remained several organizations which are connected with the WTC and whose primary important activity is to be a base for the transfer of foreign capital.

Major L.H. Bloomfield could furnish useful details about the real mission of the WTC.

Be that as it may, the presence at the WTC of a man like Shaw, implicated in the plot to assassinate Kennedy, and of an old agent of the American secret service--Bloomfield--is undoubtedly not mere chance.



For: Lead File & Botley

(+ 1 copy for J.G. special file)

1180 Heymour Ave.  
Montréal 25, P.Q.  
22 June, 1967

+ PERINDEX

Re: SHAW +  
CENTRO MONDIALE COMMERCIALE

Re: SHAW AND CANADA

Mr. Robert Scheer, Managing Editor  
RAMPARTS  
301 Broadway  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Scheer:

I am writing to you personally for some information;  
if you can't supply it, then I'll give you all I know and  
ask you to take it from there.

Your current (June) issue features the Garrison inves-  
tigation. A month ago the N.Y. Times Magazine did one. I  
read both avidly, looking in vain for clarification of a  
piece of supposedly "hard" information known to much of the  
French-speaking world, concerning Mr. Clay Shaw. I want to  
know from you if this information has been discredited and  
simply ignored—or if it ever reached the English-speaking  
world. If it hasn't—if both the N.Y. Times and Ramparts,  
which represent the extremes of thoroughness haven't heard  
of it—then things are far more muddled than even you might  
believe.

PERINDEX

My information: the respected morning paper in Montreal,  
LE DEVOIR, carried an article last winter by their American  
correspondent, Louis Witznitzer, on the Garrison investigation.  
While he said many things later admitted by Garrison (that it  
was perhaps a CIA-inspired job, and not a Castro caper, as  
many American papers first intimated), his most startling re-  
velation by far (and not even picked up by the English-language  
STAR, or any American liberal weekly), was that Clay Shaw, in  
1960, was on the board of directors of the "Centro Mondiale  
Commerciale" of Rome, a giant outfit that did no known busi-  
ness. On the board with him were: the son of Nazi Hjalmar  
Schacht; the lawyer to the Italian royal family (and secre-  
tary of the Italian Fascist Party); the editor of the neo-  
Nazi Mazzionale Zeitung of Germany; and a Montreal-based Amer-  
ican, former major in the U.S.A. by the name of Bloomfield.  
There were others, who now escape me, but all were absurdly  
fascistic. The same group also incorporated in Switzerland  
under the name of the Carditex Corporation, and that company  
was dissolved by the Swiss gov't when it was proven to be a  
conduit for funds (or funds?) for the Algerian colon movement,  
the U.S.A. They later re-incorporated under the same name in  
the more conducive city of Johannesburg. Furthermore, LE DEVOIR,  
a week before, carried a brief announcement, from LE MONDE of  
Paris, that PRAVDA said Clay Shaw, through connections in Rome,  
was an identified agent of the CIA. All of this can be verified  
by checking with the paper in question, French-Canada's leading  
paper, conscientious to the hilt. I wrote to the NYTimes a month  
ago, after reading their account, demanding to know why they hadn't  
mentioned the above, and got no reply. So, take it. I am a  
professor, and published essayist and fiction writer, and U.S.  
citizen. I want to know what happened to this "lead".

Montreal!

Clark Blaise

(R: O.A.S. Note that Schlenker was a supporter  
of this movement (the French Corporation, that is). His  
Hamburg partner was "burgundy" (with a big grin  
to them) by DAVID FERRIE SERGIO ARKISH, et al.  
The same partner was seen overnight at Guy  
BONISTER'S, then apparently shipped to Florida for

Lee Oswald's "base"  
Side entrance - 544 Camp Street



M E M O R A N D U M

APRIL 1, 1967

Re: SHAW

DALZELL group

SHAW + CMC (Italy) ✓

TO: JIM GARRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
FROM: ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH BETTY PARROTT, 900 ST. ANN STREET, MARCH 31, 1967.

On March 31, 1967, I interviewed BETTY PARROTT and learned from her that she had an extremely close relationship with BILL DALZELL. It seems that BILL DALZELL lived in her home for a certain period of time. During the time that BILL DALZELL lived in her home, she said that he was involved with a group known as The Friends of Cuba. This group had its office in the Balter Building. Members of the group included SERGIO ARCAHUE SMITH, BILL CRAIG, BILL DALZELL, GRADY DURHAM, an individual named LOGAN who was also a member of the C.I.A., BILL KLINE, an attorney, REGIS KENNEDY, a member of the FBI, an individual named HOFFMAN, and an individual named EASTERLING.

She said that although DALZELL was very secretive about the operation of the group, she said that from the conversations that she overheard over a period of time, she learned that the group was involved in an undercover operation in conjunction with the C.I.A. and FBI which involved the shipment and transportation of individuals and supplies in and out of Cuba.

She said that many times REGIS KENNEDY would come over to the house and talk to DALZELL concerning the operation. She also said that many times REGIS KENNEDY came to the office in the Balter Building to talk to DALZELL and in turn, DALZELL and other members of the group visited REGIS KENNEDY in his office. She said that REGIS KENNEDY confirmed to her the fact that CLAY SHAW is a former C.I.A. agent who did some work for the C.I.A. in Italy over a five-year span.

She said this group later moved from their office in the Balter Building and moved into an office in the International Trade Mart and then operated under the name of The Voice of Cuba or The Friends of Democratic Cuba.

She said that she does not know whether or not CLAY SHAW had any connection with this group and that she does not remember hearing CLAY SHAW'S name mentioned. She said that BILL DALZELL could tell us everything about the group and about the connection with REGIS KENNEDY and the C.I.A.

She said that BILL DALZELL has an open charge against him in New York which she believes in gun theft. She said that JOE BOLPEN has the entire file on BILL DALZELL and can give us all the information we need in regard to this charge.

She said for some reason, she has heard BILL DALZELL'S name mentioned quite often since the investigation started. She said that approximately two weeks ago, DALZELL made a trip into New Orleans and spoke to STEVE PLOTKIN and heard he left town.

*Location of GUY BANISTER's apartment prior to moving to what became FERRY*

*Look EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE & refused to testify when I called him before the Grand Jury*



Zodiac News Service  
950 Howard Street, San Francisco, California 94103 (415) 956-3555

Contacts: Jon Newhall Scott Farley Marlene Edmunds

DECEMBER 21, 1973

PAGE CREDIT  
ZDNC  
FOR 1724 1973

(ZNS) CLAY SHAW -- THE NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN ACCUSED BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON OF BEING A CONSPIRATOR IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY -- WAS A PAID CONTACT FOR THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY BACK IN THE EARLY 1960'S.

SHAW'S SECRET CONNECTIONS TO THE C.I.A. WERE REVEALED THIS WEEK BY VICTOR MARCHETTI, A FORMER C.I.A. STAFF MEMBER WHO WORKED FOR THE AGENCY FOR 14 YEARS. MARCHETTI RESIGNED FROM THE C.I.A. IN 1969.

ACCORDING TO MARCHETTI, HE LEARNED OF SHAW'S C.I.A. CONNECTION DURING GARRISON'S INVESTIGATION OF SHAW IN 1968. MARCHETTI STATES THAT HE FREQUENTLY ATTENDED MORNING BRIEFING SESSIONS WITH HIGH AGENCY OFFICIALS -- AND THAT THESE OFFICIALS OFTEN VOICED SERIOUS CONCERN THAT SHAW'S C.I.A. CONTACTS MIGHT BE UNCOVERED AND MADE PUBLIC BY GARRISON.

MARCHETTI SAID IT WAS DETERMINED IN THE AGENCY'S HEADQUARTERS BOTH BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ADMIRAL RUFUS TAYLOR, AND BY DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS, HIMSELF, THAT THE SHAW-C.I.A. CONNECTION SHOULD REMAIN A SECRET. AT THE TIME OF THE GARRISON INVESTIGATION, THE NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY HAD ALLEGED THAT SHAW WAS A C.I.A. OPERATIVE, BUT GARRISON WAS NEVER ABLE TO PROVE HIS CONTENTION.

MARCHETTI ADDED THAT ANOTHER PRINCIPAL IN THE GARRISON INVESTIGATION -- A FORMER PILOT NAMED DAVID FERRIE -- WAS ALSO A C.I.A. OPERATIVE. FERRIE DIED UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES JUST A FEW WEEKS AFTER GARRISON CHARGED THAT HE HAD BEEN INVOLVED WITH SHAW IN THE ALLEGED J.F.K. CONSPIRACY PLOT.

MARCHETTI, WHILE STRESSING THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ALL OF THE SPECIFICS, ADDED THAT SHAW, FERRIE AND MOST OF THE WATERGATE BUGGING TEAM -- INCLUDING E. HOWARD HUNT, FRANK STURGIS, BERNARD BARKER (CON

(MORE)

Victor Marchetti  
(AC 703) 958-1580



AND THE OTHERS -- WERE ALL WORKING TOGETHER IN THE C.I.A.'S BAY OF PIGS PLANNING OPERATION. HE SAID IT WAS (QUOTE) "VERY POSSIBLE" THAT SHAW AND THE WATERGATE BUGGERS REMAINED IN CONTACT AFTER THE 1961 CUBAN INVASION FAILED.

A NUMBER OF J.F.K. ASSASSINATION RESEARCHERS HAVE CHARGED THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY A CONTINGENT OF C.I.A. OPERATI WHO WERE INFURIATED OVER THE MANNER IN WHICH KENNEDY HANDLED THE BA OF PIGS FIASCO.

MARCHETTI ADDED THAT DURING THE CLAY SHAW INVESTIGATION BY GARRISON, HIGH C.I.A. OFFICIALS OFTEN EXPRESSED THE NEED TO (QUOTE) "GIVE HELP TO" CLAY SHAW AND HIS DEFENSE TEAM -- ZODIAC

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(ZNS) NOW THAT HUMANS HAVE FIGURED OUT HOW TO PLAY WITH THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE EARTH, SCIENTISTS ARE TALKING ABOUT CHANGING THE CLIMATE ON MARS -- IN EFFORTS TO PRODUCE LIFE.

RESEARCHERS AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY'S LABORATORY FOR PLANET STUDIES BELIEVE THAT MARS IS CURRENTLY IN A STATE OF HIBERNATION. AFTER STUDYING PHOTOS TAKEN BY MARINER NINE, THE ASTRONOMERS BELIEVE THAT MARS OSCILLATES BETWEEN ITS CURRENT ICE AGE AND A PERIOD OF WARMTH AND MOISTURE WHEN LIFE CAN FLOURISH ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE.

THE CORNELL SCIENTISTS BELIEVE THAT IF EARTHLINGS WAIT LONG ENOUGH -- LIKE 50,000 YEARS -- THE SURFACE OF MARS WILL HEAT UP ONCE AGAIN, AND LIFE WILL SPREAD ACROSS THE RED PLANET.

THE RESEARCHERS ARE SUGGESTING, HOWEVER, THAT EARTH SCIENTISTS COULD ADD COLORING AGENTS TO THE MARTIAN POLAR CAP, CAUSE THE MELTING PROCESS TO SPEED UP, QUICKLY ENDING THE ICE AGE. THIS THEY BELIEVE, WOULD PRODUCE MARTIAN LIFE IN A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME -- RATHER THAN WAITING FOR ANOTHER 50,000 YEARS FOR NATURE TO TAKE ITS OWN COURSE -- ZODIAC

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~~Hand Copy:~~  
Shaw & World Trade Center

DUPE

April 14, 1967

To: Lang for Billings

From: Cerabona, Rome

Re: Clay Shaw in Rome?

Blackell

Center Mondr Commercial  
Relationship to Perminex

It was all started by leftist daily "Paese Sera" which is famous for this kind of exploits, too colorful in many cases, although rarely proven to be basically wrong. Paese Sera frontpaged headlines read: "Clay Shaw (arrested for Kennedy) has conducted an obscure activity in Rome" and -- subtitled -- "Sensational revelations on the mysterious past in Italy of the businessman incriminated by Garrison in New Orleans." Pictures show 1958 CMC Council Committee list where among others there is name of Clay Shaw as the General Manager of "International Trade Mat" from New Orleans (USA). An old picture of CMC headquarters in Rome's new suburb EUR, and a 1962 (Feb. 16) issue of Paese Sera announcing that the CMC (Centro Mondiale Commerciale -- World Trade Center) had been expelled for not paying the 100 million lire (about 160 thousand dollars) monthly rent.

In their piece, Paese Sera, say that CMC came to Rome in 1961 and that it was an international trade organization whose aim was to transform EUR district into a permanent exposition center and, in meantime, to favour not better identified "business investments." (note: EUR, by strange coincidence, was planned and started between 1939-1940 by Mussolini with purpose of installing there permanent exposition center of Rome.)

Among members of the council there were: Swiss Minister Ernest Feiss; Max Hagemann publisher of "National Zeitung" (Switzerland); banker Hans Seligman-Schuch from Basel; Ferenc Nagy former president of Hungary's council, former leader of farmers' party, president of Perminex (CMC headquarters). -- FYI: Nagy died some months ago. -- And to go on, Enrico Mantello, brother of George Mandel,

2-2-2-2-2-

organizer or president of CME and affiliates. Other personalities connected with CMC: Sicilian Prince Guiterrez di Spatafora whose son married a relative of Hjalmar Schacht, Hitler's "finance magician"; USA L.M. Bloomfield, banker of Montreal, one time OSS Major.

Permindez activities and investments were reportedly denounced as "criminal" by Basel paper "AZ" in August 19, 1961. In same story, Paese Sera reports, Nagy and Mantello (alias Mandel) were mentioned. "AZ" was sued by Mantello (or Mandel) who withdrew suit, leaving "AZ" to print regrets for not having had opportunity to discuss case and facts in trial court. French press seems to have attacked, sometime ago, Ferenc Nagy as financing and supporting Siustello's group. Another Hungarian, H. Simonfay, is indicated as one of the leading CME public relations man, director of Italian ACEN and Hungarian BOWDA, two agencies specialized in getting information in-and-out socialist countries.

The Agatha Christie style enquiry of Paese Sera goes as far as finding connections with CME in two of the most famous, unsolved, Rome's murder cases: that of Libanes Egyptian Faruk Churbagi for whose murder were accused the Babawi couple; and that similarly mysteriously killed German girl Christa Wanninger. Claim is that few days before being killed Churbagi put 200 million lire (about 320 thousand dollars) into the Italo-American Hotel Corporation whose General Manager is George Mantel (alias Giorgio Mantello) along with many other people from CME. That's for Churbagi. For Wanninger, Paese Sera recalls their readers that at the time of the enquiries hke murder it was found that she constantly contacted big names in high-finance, connected with Switzerland, mainly, but Germany and Egypt too.

Paese Sera admits that there are no proofs or evidence that Shaw has indeed been in Rome, but subtly points out that only foreigners who are in Italy for over 3 days are regularly registered in Police records. (all hotels or pensioni, however, must submit constantly name and dates of clients to Police).

On the other hand, although is technically expected to be done by foreigner



3-3-3-3-

who stay in private houses, nobody bothers to register even through their Embassies. And, furthermore, if indeed CMC was a facade for CIA here in Italy, Shaw could have been travelling with another passport, couldn't he?

Contrary to other past exploits of Faesè Sera, this one has not provoked or aroused formal protest, denial or sarcastic comments through other publications.

In

It has been officially denied by all ministries spokesmen (Defence, Interior, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade) when I asked them. It has been similarly denied the existence of any liaison between CMC and CIA during a confidential talk based on friendship trust, with top ministry of Interior's official. But, same top official, like other sources approached on friendly basis, ended conversation with same remark "and admitting it might be true, what makes you think anyone will say so?"

And so we still are where we started. Unless you may dig something from Switzerland or Johannesburg where, reportedly, CMC was moved after Italy's: paranthes  
Who knows?

\*\*\*\*\*





November 7th

Dear Jim ...

Am still waiting for the translator to return the Paesa  
Sera material, but this is the list reproduced in it of the Board  
of Directors of Centro Mondiale Commerciale

Gr. Uff. Avv. Dr. Carlo d'Amelio (Rome) - President of the CMC  
On. Dr. Corrado Bonfantini (Torino) - also Christian Democrat member  
of Italian parliament  
On. Prof. Dr. Mario Ceravolo (Chiaravalle Centrale Catanzaro) - also  
Social Democrat in parliament  
S. E. Dr. Feisst (Bern) - also Pres. of Wunder A.G.B.  
Prof. Dr. Max Hagemann (Basel) - also Editor/owner of National Zeitung,  
mouthpiece of the Nazi movement,  
and Prof. at U. of Basel  
Enrico A. Mantello (Basel & Rome) - alias George Mandell. (One report  
has it that Ferenc Nagy was a  
front for some of his activities)  
S. E. Dr. Ferenc Nagy (Basel & Roma) - also President of Permindez;  
once premier of Hungary, kicked  
out by Communists (1946-47). Re-  
cently reported living in Dallas!  
Prof. Dr. Edgar Salin (Basel) - also Pres. of Facolta di Economia  
Hans Seligmen-Schürch (Basel)  
CLAY SHAW (New Orleans) - also Member of the Board of the Inter. Trade  
Mart, New Orleans  
Prince Gutierrez di Spadafora (Palermo) -- former minister for Mussolini  
(1936) and father of husband of dg  
Hjalmar Schacht (that is,  
father-in-law to Schacht's  
daughter). Schacht was  
minister of finance for  
Hitler.

The Le Devoir article (Montreal) also had Giuseppe Zigiotti  
(identified as a neo-fascist), Faruk Churabi (a murdered Egyptian),  
and Bloomfield on the list. It also made a point of Nagy & his party  
(in Hungary and out) being the CIA liason, comparable to the Cubans  
in Miami situation. More to come.

Paris

↑  
L. H. H.  
Analysis 8/2



"Le Devoir" (French newspaper) — March 16, 1964.

Letter from New York. For: Archives

"The Inquest of the District Attorney Garrison on the  
Assassination of Kennedy — Will it lead to Montreal?"  
from our correspondent Louis Wizenitzer.

"It is known that Jim Garrison, the District Attorney of New Orleans, indicted Clay Shaw (retired Major and a highly respected citizen of the city) for participation, along with Lee Oswald & the recently deceased Ferrie (in curious circumstances, just as he was about to be apprehended, himself,) in a plot to assassinate J.F. Kennedy. A search of the home of Clay Shaw produced the discovery of a stupefying collection of whips, chains, handcuffs, masks and instruments of torture. A confirmed bachelor, long-time director of the Trade Mart — around which Oswald had distributed pro-Cuba leaflets in July of 1963 — did Shaw lead a double life, did he conceal, behind the mask of one of the 35 most respected citizens of N.O., that of a Marquis de Sade? The lawyer, Andrews, swore to the F.B.I. that a mysterious person named Clay Bertrand had telephoned him immediately after Lee Oswald's arrest to beg Andrews to defend Oswald. This same Clay Bertrand had many times financed the defense of homosexuals having difficulties with the law.



Are Clay Shaw and Clay Bertrand one and the same person? Shaw denies it but the new Attorney General of the U.S., Clark, declares that Shaw, in effect, had been interrogated by the F.B.I. after the assassination of President Kennedy. 40 pages of this interrogation remain strictly secreted and were not submitted to the D.A. of N.O. for perusal. 2-

But this strange affair assumes even more strange dimensions. The name of Clay Shaw had just been discovered among those of 11 directors of a company which was ~~based until 1962 in Montreal~~. (Here there is an entire line of print missing and the report continues as follows: - NCF): "in Rome, entitled World Commercial Centre (Centro Mondiale Commerciale), and whose other directors were: Prince Gutierrez di Spadafora (one of Mussolini's ministers in 1936), and father of a son who married the daughter of Schacht (Hjalmar Schacht - NCF), finance minister for Hitler. - Terence Nagy, exiled director of the Hungarian party which maintains the same kind of ties with the C.I.A. as those maintained with the Cubans in Miami, - Giuseppe Ligisti, who was a fascist "gerarcha"; - Farouk Churebi, Egyptian who was assassinated - and A.P. Blumfield of Montreal.

Major Blumfield, a retired Army major, during the Second World War, served in the O.S.S. (forerunner of the C.I.A.) and is highly respected in Canada. He was also at ~~any~~ time the principal stockholder of a society which had its offices in Switzerland, - ~~the~~ ~~an~~



affiliate of the World Centre in Rome - named "Perimex"  
The other stockholders of "Perimex" were some more or  
less phantom banks set up in Liechtenstein: Miami  
Install Vaduz - De Famaco Vaduz - and the Bank  
Credit of Geneva. Among the administrators is the  
name of Max Hagerman, director of the National Review  
a newspaper which specializes in anti-Communist  
diatribes. Be that as it may, the Centro Commerciale  
and "Perimex" had many bones to pick with the Swiss  
and Italian governments: they dug up considerable  
sums (stocks, funds), the origins of which were highly  
questionable, to say the least - and which never  
executed any actual commercial transactions. In  
1962 they were chased out of Switzerland and Italy  
and they reestablished themselves in Johannesburg.  
At that time the Swiss press had accused "Perimex"  
of having financed, among other things, the activities  
of Scuttlé (one of the 4 French generals who opposed  
De Gaulle in Algeria and is still in hiding - MCF) - and  
of the O.A.S. (the French party which was organized to oppose the  
liberation of Algeria - MCF). One of the directors of "Centro"  
was a Mr. Camelio, a lawyer for the Italian royal  
family, attached to the monarchistic party of Italy.  
Another detail which doesn't lack for being pointed:  
Clay Shaw, in his youth, had published a short story  
from which John Ford had made a film "Men Without  
Women".



Is Garrison on the trail of the assassins of Kennedy?  
It is too early to tell. In any case, he appears to have opened an astonishing Pandora's box.

"The Reds and the Blacks", a book which has just been published by Bill Attwood, the present editor of Look magazine, who was one of J.F. Kennedy's youngest and most brilliant advisers who served him most notably as Ambassador to Guinea — opens new horizons on the Dallas tragedy. Bill Attwood, considered one of the best American journalists, tells that in 1963 the Cuban Ambassador to Guinea gave him to understand that Fidel Castro wished for a rapprochement with the United States and would be prepared, if such be the case, to make certain concessions. Attwood disclosed this fact to Averill Harriman and to Adlai Stevenson. The latter spoke of it to President Kennedy who then authorized Attwood to make contact with Carlos Lechuga, Cuban ambassador to the United Nations "on the condition that it would be patently clear that the initiative would not come from Washington." At their second meeting, Lechuga informed Attwood that there was a very strong chance that he would soon be invited to Havana. Robert Kennedy suggested that a discreet meeting in Mexico would be preferable. An American journalist, Lisa Howard, of A.B.C., who had often visited Cuba & had interviewed Fidel Castro and Guevarra, was informed of the proposed diplomatic manœuvre and managed to speak of it to Mayor



René Vallesjo, aide de-camp of Fidel Castro. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1963, Vallesjo advised Lisa Howard that Fidel Castro desired a visit from a representative of the United States, on the condition that it be very discreet. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, McGeorge Bundy told Lisa Howard that the State Department wanted to know precisely what Fidel Castro wished to discuss - before sending anyone to see him. The next morning, ~~Lisa Howard~~ Vallesjo telephoned Lisa Howard and told her that Fidel Castro was acceptable to the idea that the meeting - - - " (here the entire story comes to an abrupt ending - McF.).



Fr: Lead File

PRAVDA, March 7, 1967

CLAY SHAW is FROM "TeRU" (CIA)

Rome 6. (From own correspondent). The U.S. Central Information Agency operating in Italy used the services of Clay Shaw, the man, whom the District Attorney for New Orleans charged with taking part in a conspiracy, which brought about the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Roman newspapers published this material on the front pages.

Clay Shaw spent some years in the Italian capital city, where he had a job as one of the leading personalities in the so called "International Trade Center", located in the most fashionable part of Rome.

This "Center" wasn't very active in trade promotion and in commercial expansion. Its goal was quite different:

Its aim, as informs the newspapers, was to finance "intolerant anticommunist groups".

Clay Shaw and an American agent, Major Blumenfeld, who now figures as a businessman, settled in Canada, organized confidential contacts among political circles in Rome, including deputies of the Christian-Democratic party, the Social-Democratic and neofascist parties.

They were also actively engaged in penetrating the business community.

Clay Shaw's duties were to establish contacts with the extreme rightist groups in Rome, and among these included representatives of neofascist organizations.

"Those were the instructions, which were given by the CIA" - reads the newspapers.

The "Center" especially established close relations with a Mr. Giuseppe Gisigotti, who is the president of one of the most important fascist organizations, and with prince Gutierrez di Spadafora, a relative of the Hitlerian banker von Schacht, etc.

It is evident, that the "International Trade Center" was busy with more important things, than with the simple commercial transactions, emphasizes the newspaper "Unita".

.....

Италии. На Шоу лежало установить контакты с крайне правыми группировками столицы, в том числе с представителями неонацистских организаций.

«Таковы были директивы, данные ЦРУ», — пишут газеты. Особенно близкие отношения установил «центр» с сеньором Джузеппе Диджотти, президентом одной из крупнейших фашистских организаций, князем Гутьеррес ди Спадафора, родственником

Итальянская общественность, пишет газета, ждет, что снянут по этому поводу официальные влиятельные власти.

В 1964 году «центр» в Риме был закрыт, ибо привлек к себе слишком большое внимание. Он возродился под тем же названием в ЮАР, в городе Йоханнесбург.

В. ЕРМАКОВ.

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The Italian press remarked, that the Roman "Center" was only a branch of Switzerland's organization "Permidex", which the Swiss press has openly accused of "criminal activity" and demanded a government investigation on its activities.

In particular "Permidex" financed O.A.S. groups in France.

A request by Swiss deputies to the government concerning their activity still remains unanswered.

But it is very clear, it is remarked in Rome, that both "Permidex" and its branch in Italy, were only a curtain, that covered one of the offices of the CIA.

In 1964, the Roman "Center" was closed, because it began to attract too much public attention.

It has since been revived under the same name in South Africa, in the city of Johannesburg.

Italian public opinion, writes the left wing press, awaits to see what will be said in the official circles about this matter.

V. Ermakov.

Translated by Mr. Demetrio Iwaszkiewicz, NOLA., August 2, 1967

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ТАЙЛОР С. А. 1967



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и проводили также в деловом мире Италии. На Шоу возлагалась задача установить контакты с крайними правыми группировками страны, в том числе с представителями неонацистских организаций.

Таковы были директивы, данные Шоу.

и «Пермяков», и его присутствие в Италии было не более чем прикрытием, прокрывавшим одну из функций ЦРУ.

В 1964 году «центр» в Риме был закрыт, ибо пришел к своему концу. События изменились. Он воспроизвел все, что же называлось в ЦРУ, в городе Риме.

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Philip Mather (lives: Toronto  
168 ~~More Ave~~ Toronto, Ontario M4T1V8, Can  
ph: 427-2232)  
Michael Phillips (ph: 7253 or 3311 - ext 3258)

Louis M. Bloomfield (lives: ~~Buenos Aires~~ Director  
of Atlas Bank (Bahamas)  
(Montreal))

Helmut Faust, S.A.  
(Tied to International Credit Bank. Collapsed in '73).  
(Darn Development Corp.)

Meyer Lansky involved in International Credit Bank.

"Take Over" = his new book...

□ Shawinfo (Marchetti)

□ CMC info

□ "A H of ST"

(Get Paperback copies)

□ Give name to Ralph Schoonman

TRANSCRIBED MARCH 7, 1968

The following is a telephone call with a LOUIE WITNIZER who had written for the Devoir Canadian paper and the conversation concerns MAJOR or COLONEL L. N. BLUMFIELD who was a very major, if not the major factor in Permidex, the subsidiary or actually the central front organization for the Centro Mondo Commerciale on the board of which CLAY SHAW functioned.

Q - Caller

A - WITNIZER

- Q. I would like to ask if you are able to amplify what meager information I have about COL. BLUMFIELD. I wonder if you might have any -- could direct me to information about him or you might have access to some yourself that I haven't been able to obtain.
- A. Well, you could talk to a man who knows him in Montreal, wait a second, I'll give you his telephone number.
- Q. Thank you.
- A. His name is BRAN ATEL, now, who is himself familiar banker and who is more or less in the same circle and if you approach him discreetly, not in a, you know, a too aggressive manner...
- Q. When you say in the same circle, do you mean in Montreal or do you mean just in banking circles.
- A. In banking circles. In social and banking circles.
- Q. I see.
- A. And he knows this man well.
- Q. Would he be inclined to answer a few questions?
- A. Yes. As I said, if you approach, you know, with some subtlety.
- Q. Right.
- A. So that it doesn't sound like he's going to, you know, he'll answer a question there. But if you talk to him, this man knows a lot about one and the financial deeds that he's doing and that he's involved in.
- Q. Right.
- A. He lives in 501 Roslyn Avenue in Montreal and now I have a couple of phone numbers but I'm not sure whether they are still, but anyway he would be on information.
- Q. He was listed in the directory, I know.



A. All you do is call 514, which is the Montreal Area Code, and then 555-1212 and I have a phone number here 878-9489 and then another one, 931-1158. These are the two phone numbers in Montreal. If one or the other is changed, they would just tell you immediately.

Q. Right. Do you think that...

A. You can drop my name...

Q. It's alright to mention it.

A. Yes, you can mention it. But as I said, sort of, don't give him the feeling that, you know, how should I say, drown the thing a little bit.

Q. Yes. Do you think it would be indelicate to ask him if he knows anything about COL. BLUMFIELD's relationship to Permidex in particular?

A. No, that would be fine.

Q. I'm interested in the Colonel's withholding in C.M.C.

A. Right. Now I know that the Swiss papers in 1959 and '60 had a number of articles about Permidex.

Q. In 1959 and 1960?

A. Yes, I saw clippings but I didn't keep them.

Q. You don't recall which of the Swiss papers...

A. I think the Tribune or the Gazette. The Tribune or the Gazette, I don't know which cause this is now old and I asked someone in Switzerland to send me clippings and the Swiss press had quite a number of articles about Permidex at the time. You know to me it was just one article, I wasn't writing a book, so I didn't keep them. But I assume that those reports in the Swiss paper were probably the ones alluded to in later on. At any rate, does live in Montreal and he is an international banker investor and he specialized, BRAN tells me that he specialized in big investments abroad. But you could ask your questions a little further, you know...

Q. Right. Well I certainly appreciate your helping me, MR. WITNIZER. Call me anytime.

A. Right, thank you so much.

1186 Seymour Ave.  
Montreal 25, P.Q.  
22 June, 1967

Mr. Robert Scheer, Managing Editor  
RAMPARTS  
301 Broadway  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Scheer:

I am writing to you personally for some information; if you can't supply it, then I'll give you all I know and ask you to take it from there.

Your current (June) issue features the Garrison investigation. A month ago the N.Y. Times Magazine did one. I read both avidly, looking in vain for clarification of a piece of supposedly "hard" information known to much of the French-speaking world, concerning Mr. Clay Shaw. I want to know from you if this information has been discredited and simply ignored--or if it ever reached the English-speaking world. If it hasn't--if both the N.Y. Times and Ramparts, which represent the extremes of thoroughness haven't heard of it--then things are far more muddled than even you might believe.

My information: the respected morning paper in Montreal, LE DEVOIR, carried an article last winter by their American correspondent, Louis Witznitzer, on the Garrison investigation. While he said many things later admitted by Garrison (that it was perhaps a CIA-inspired job, and not a Castro caper, as many American papers first intimated), his most startling revelation by far (and not even picked up by the English-language STAR, or any American liberal weekly), was that Clay Shaw, in 1960, was on the board of directors of the "Centro Mondiale Commerciale" of Rome, a giant outfit that did no known business. On the board with him were: the son of Nazi Hjalmar Schacht; the lawyer to the Italian royal family (and secretary of the Italian Fascist Party); the editor of the neo-Nazi National Zeitung of Germany; and a Montreal-based American, former major in the U.S.A., by the name of Bloomfield. There were others, who now escape me, but all were absurdly fascistic. The same group also incorporated in Switzerland under the name of the Permindex Corporation, and that company was dissolved by the Swiss gov't when it was proven to be a conduit for funds (of funds?) for the Algerian colon movement, the O.A.S. They later re-incorporated under the same name in the more conducive city of Johannesburg. Furthermore, LE DEVOIR, a week before, carried a brief announcement, from LE MONDE of Paris, that PRAVDA said Clay Shaw, through connections in Rome, was an identified agent of the CIA. All of this can be verified by checking with the paper in question, French-Canada's leading paper, conscientious to the hilt. I wrote to the NYTimes a month ago, after reading their account, demanding to know why they hadn't mentioned the above, and got no reply. So, take it. I am a professor, and published essayist and fiction writer, and U.S. citizen. I want to know what happened to this "lead".

Clark Plaise

Jim:  
This came in while I was gone.  
There may be some items you don't  
already have.

Bob Turner



*Re: The Centro Mondiale Commerciale*

had offered to testify that he had conferred with Shaw, Jack Ruby, and Lee Oswald from two to nine in the evening, on September 2, 1963. The meeting purportedly took place at the Jack Tar Capital House Hotel in Baton Rouge. Rumors indicated that assertions were being made that Mr. Shaw contributed financial support to Mr. Johnson's campaign.

Garrison's office also claimed that it had unearthed evidence of three rendezvous between Shaw and Oswald in small, rural Louisiana towns during the late summer of 1963.

The New Orleans *States-Item* then ran a copyrighted story <sup>11</sup> by Hoke May, David Snyder, Ross Yockey, and Rosemary James of its staff and R. T. Eudicott of the Dayton (Ohio) *Daily News*, which began to crack the shell of denial regarding the CIA's involvement in the case and with some of the principal participants. Gordon Novel had already announced that he intended to hide behind the cloak (and his famous "Mr. Weiss letter" suggested even the dagger) of the Central Intelligence Agency in the face of the looming Garrison inquiry. Now Shaw himself was seemingly revealed as having connections with that mysterious department of the United States government. Certainly he was associated with two organizations which were widely identified by responsible figures as being arms, fronts, or financial conduits for its activities.

Rather than draw on the excellent, but necessarily secondhand, report of the group of star journalists mentioned, the author established communications with the original source, the newspaper *Pesa Sera* of Rome. What follows is the result of that line of inquiry.

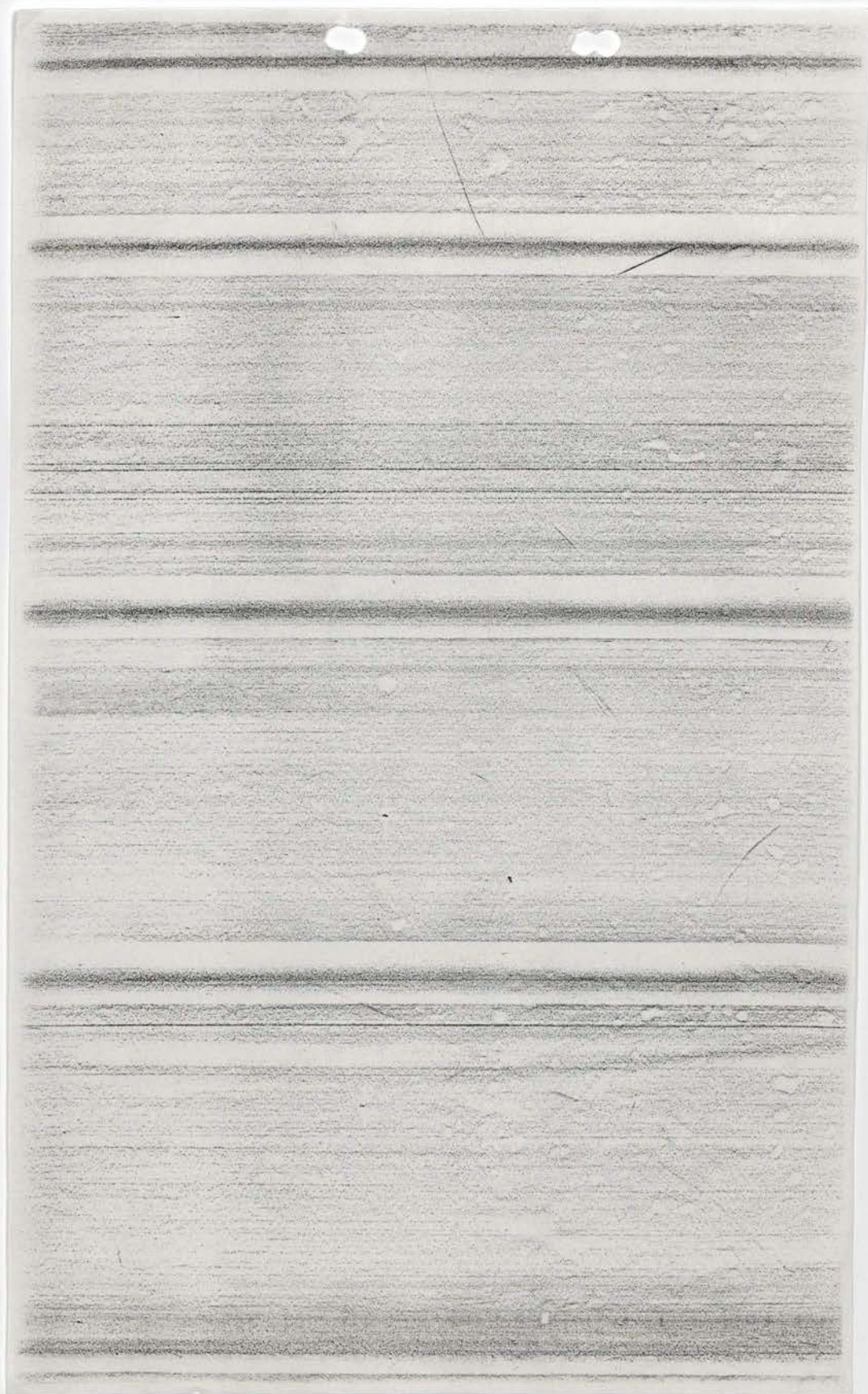
There was established in Rome an organization named the Centro Mondiale Commerciale. Its origins, functions, rotating presidency, geographical displacements, sub-, subsequent, and alternate designations, were so complex and labyrinthine as to make a comprehensive and comprehensible description of it in anything less than a moderate-sized book impossible. Nonetheless, the essence of its activities can be sketched here, and as they seem to deeply incorporate Clay Shaw, a former OSS colonel, Italian Fascists, supporters of the far, paramilitary right in Europe, the CIA, and other like subjects, it is vital that the fundamentals of this situation be clarified as much as space and the entire business' innate irreducible confusion permit.<sup>12</sup>

In 1959 another of the mysterious figures who appear to comprise the major portion of the persons somehow related to the investigation in New Orleans, a Hungarian, George Mandel, at one point Italianized t

<sup>11</sup> New Orleans *States-Item*, New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, and Dayton (Ohio) *Daily News*, April 25, 1967.

<sup>12</sup> *Pesa Sera*, March 4, 1967.







stand anything of this strange man, Clay L. Shaw of New Orleans, and who knows where, the simple two-dimensional sketch offered to the public should be given the depth a more concrete mass of material would reveal.

One last point must be noted before we leave this particular area of inquiry. Seeking more information regarding the Centro Mondiale Commerciale, the author telephoned the office of the Italian Consul General in New York. After having received silence in response to requests for information in three successive steps, the author was turned over to an apparent superior. When the question "What can you tell me about the CMC in Rome?" was put, for the fourth time, to a man whom the entire series of exchanges indicated to be of considerable authority, he replied: "Why don't you contact the American Embassy?" "The American Embassy?" echoed the author, not a little surprised at the candor implied. "The American Embassy in Rome," the anonymous informant repeated. "But we are interested in the CMC as seen from the Italian perspective," the author explained. "Try the American Embassy, I can't help you any further." The gentleman was thanked for his assistance and the conversation concluded.<sup>25</sup>

In New Orleans, Clay L. Shaw is a distinguished citizen.

In Rome he was a key member of the boards of two highly recondite, clandestine organizations, numbering among his colleagues persons accused of "criminal activities" on an international level, Fascists, and victims of European assassinations.

Are they, in any way, reconcilable images?

The complexity of Shaw's associations does not end with the Centro Mondiale Commerciale and Permindex, but extends deeply into his personal relationships in Europe. His private address and telephone book, for example, carries the name and address of the wife of a well-known English Fascist, as well as the name, address, and private telephone number of Principessa Marcelle Borghese (now Duchessa de Bomartao), who is related to Prince Valerio Borghese, sometimes referred to as "the Black Prince," or "the New Duce," leader of the Movimento Sociale Italiano, the anti-British, anti-American neo-Fascist organization. The prince was a much-decorated midget-submarine commander during the war, following which he was tried and sentenced to twelve years in prison for cooperating with the Nazis after the Italian armistice with the Allies was signed. However, as he had spent four years in jail awaiting trial, after sentencing, the remaining prison period was suspended.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Author's private files.

<sup>26</sup> Dennis Eisenberg, *The Re-emergence of Fascism* (London, MacGibbon and Lee, 1967).



Giorgio Mantello, created a Società Italo-Americana, the purpose of which was announced as industry and commerce. On November 14 of that year he inaugurated what *Passa Sera* regards as his most important "creation," the Italo-American Hotel Corporation. Its stated object was the construction of the Hotel du Lac of the EUR (Exposition Universale Roma). The largest of its shareholders were three foreign credit groups, "represented in Italy by the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, the De Farnaco Astalde Vaduz (Swiss), the Miami Astalde Vaduz (American), and the Seligman Bank of Basel. The De Farnaco and the Seligman institutions were among the most powerful stockholders of the *Comita Mondiale Commerciale*."<sup>13</sup>

The CMC was founded in 1961. Spokesmen asserted that it would function as an international commercial organization, that it would aid in the establishing of a permanent exposition, and generally assist concerns involved in trade. The staffing was expensive, the offices elaborate, and it gave all the appearance of being a rather grand operation.

The board of directors was interestingly assorted. Several respected Italians were present—Christian Democrat Deputy Mario Ceravolo and former Social Democrat Deputy Ciriaco De Santis. Listed as president was Carlo D'Amelio, lawyer and administrator of the former royal family's interests. The remainder of the board consisted of non-Italian names. Swiss Minister Ernest Feisst; Swiss Professor Max Hagemann, owner-editor of the newspaper *National Zeitung* (not to be confused with the neo-Nazi German *National und Soldaten Zeitung*); Hans Seligman-Schürch, Basel banker; Professor Edgar Salin, president of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Basel; Dr. Enrico Mantello, brother of George Mandel (Mantello), the power behind the *Società Italo-Americana*; Ferenc Nagy, former Hungarian premier and erstwhile leader of the anti-Communist Countryman's party, and president of Permindex (the head office of the CMC); Prince Gutierrez di Spadafora, industrialist and landowner of oddly totalitarian turn of mind, related through his daughter-in-law to Adolf Hitler's notorious Minister of Finance, Hjalmar Schacht tried as a war criminal at Nuremberg; and Clay L. Shaw, of New Orleans.<sup>14</sup>

Now what of these associates of the "old-fashioned liberal of the Wilson-Roosevelt persuasion"? What kind of persons did they seem to be? Again, space precludes a full examination of each, or, for that matter, even a cursory individual analysis, but we certainly can look into the background and activities of a few.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*



First there is Giorgio Mantello (Mandel), a Hungarian refugee, Austrian citizen, functioning in Italy, Switzerland, and elsewhere with financial transactions reaching throughout Europe, Africa, and America, who has, according to *Poesa Sera*, been condemned for his "criminal activities" in Switzerland. This latter revelation was originally carried in the August 19, 1961, issue of the Basel newspaper *A-Z*, which featured a report about directors of government agencies, saying: "In many articles we have justly spoken of the criminal activities of Messrs. [Ferenc] Nagy and Mantello." Mantello initiated a suit against the Swiss journal, then abruptly abandoned it, causing *A-Z* to observe: "Too bad; we would have heard some great things at the trial."<sup>15</sup>

Ferenc Nagy was closely associated with Mantello in his highly secret financial-political maneuverings. When Mantello founded Permindex, the head office and other face of the Centro Mondiale Commerciale, Nagy became its president. He was the Nagy accused of "criminal activities" along with Mantello, and identified by Swiss newspapers as a "dependent" of the CMC in Rome.

"As president of Permindex, I would like to thank the Italian government for the good will and sincere interest shown toward our great undertaking, the permanent industrial exposition and the CMC," orated Nagy as the operation he fronted began. It was all very grand and impressive but to quote *Poesa Sera*:

"The farce . . . reached the point of the grotesque when the lawyer D'Amelio, praising Permindex as 'a capillary organization located in the principal centers of production, with its head office [CMC] in Rome' (a organization, all the while, virtually non-existent), brought all of Italian civilization into play by affirming that thanks to the Centro [CMC] 'Rome will recover once again her position as *caput mundi*, as center of the civilized world.'"<sup>16</sup>

Actually it was soon to become evident that the seemingly vast, high structure was not a rock of solidarity, but a shell of superfluity; it constructed with mass supporting promise, but composed of channels through which money flowed back and forth, with no one knowing its source or the destination of these liquid assets.

Ferenc Nagy, who, while premier of Hungary, was "compelled Communists in key government positions to expel from his party various of its members who had been arrested for plotting . . . against the government,"<sup>17</sup> and who, while on a trip to Switzerland on May

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, March 11-12, 1967.

<sup>17</sup> *Universal Standard Encyclopedia*, Vol. XVI, p. 5,974.



1947, telephoned his resignation to Budapest, moved in shadowy areas of finance and politics. "President of Permindex and Board Member of the CMC," reports *Poesa Sera*, "(he) was said by the French press to be a munificent contributor to the phila-fascistic movement of [Jacques] Soustelle, and [a] patron of far-right movements throughout Europe, including Italy." <sup>18</sup>

Certainly one is led to wonder why, of all the hundreds of nations on earth, Nagy ended up in the United States; and why of all the thousands of cities in the United States, Nagy ended up in Dallas. For that is where the violently right-oriented, OAS-financing, president of Permindex and board member of the Centro Mondiale Commerciale did end up, in the city that boasted the infamous "Wanted for Treason" manifesto, which accused Kennedy of being a Communist; in the city where the President was assassinated—in Dallas.

These were two of liberal Clay Shaw's associates in his European activities.

Prince Gutierrez di Spadafora, Undersecretary of Agriculture in Mussolini's Fascist government, was another. After his wartime achievements he turned his talents to his vast landholdings and commerce, especially to the establishment of a corporation, with himself as president, which constructed a huge refinery at Milazzo, in Messina, Sicily. He is also president of the Sicilian Compagnia Armatrice Industriale Petroli-fera Amatori, which is involved with arms and oil. The prince also owns what is reputed to be the largest hothouse in the world, in Pachino, Syracuse. The more than a hundred employees were for some time supervised by "landsmen" from his feudal estates in Valle d'Olma and Mus-someli, in the province of Caltanissetta who rode about in velvet jackets and high black boots, with fancy revolvers flashing from their belts. According to *Poesa Sera* "the Syracusans, unaccustomed to these Mafia-like habits, held a great general strike in protest, in December, 1962, and the Mafiosi of the Prince were forced to return" to his more feudal prop-erties.

The Centro Mondiale Commerciale boasted another interesting name in its background. He is Giuseppe Zigliotti, president of the Fascist National Association for Militia Arms.

"Another fact which may help us understand certain things about the personalities around the CMC," said *Poesa Sera*, "is the presence in this group of H. Simonfy, Hungarian refugee, who directs BO-DA, an agency for provocative information from and for the socialistic countries. He is director in Italy of ACEN (specializing in hostile activities on the

<sup>18</sup> *Poesa Sera*, March 4, 1967.



confrontations of socialist countries), who had an important position in the field of public relations for the CMC, for which he received a salary of half a million lire a month.<sup>19</sup>

However, no behind-the-scenes figure is more intriguing than Mr. L. M. Bloomfield, formerly of the American OSS, and later suspected by Jim Garrison of having some affiliation with the CIA.

On July 21, 1961, Giorgio Mantello appeared at the Italian assembly representing all the stockholders of the CMC. These included himself, his brother Enrico, another Hungarian refugee, Joseph Sli and Feller Erwin, banker Hans Seligman, and lawyer Carlo D'Amelio . . . holder of 500,000 lire worth of shares. And Mr. L. M. Bloomfield, who held half the shares or 250 million, for parties unknown.<sup>20</sup>

Now obviously the activities of these Shaw associates were closely chestrated, considering the financial-political manipulator Mantello permitted to represent not only himself but the six other stockholders of the CMC, including Bloomfield, former United States espionage agent and now a banker in Montreal, who is reputed to control Le Credit Suisse of Canada, Heineken's Breweries, Canscot Realty, the Israel Contine Company, the Grimaldi Siosa Lines, Ltd., etc.<sup>21</sup>

Even Montreal is not without significance, for to quote the Canadian journal *Le Devoir*:

"But here is where the affair assumes stranger and stranger characteristics. It has just been learned that the name of Clay Shaw was found among that of eleven directors of a company which, up until it had its headquarters in Montreal (italics added), presently in Rome, it is known as the Centro Mondiale Commerciale. . . ."<sup>22</sup>

Shortly thereafter, while alluding to other directors, *Le Devoir* reported: "Ferenc Nagy, exiled head of the Hungarian Peasants Party maintains close ties with the CIA and which link him with the Cuban colony." Also listed are the previously mentioned Fascist seppie Ziglotti, Bloomfield, and an Egyptian, Faruk Churbagi.

This particular episode is worthy of mention for various reasons, the least of which is its exemplifying of some of the tactics which are common to forces behind the CMC and its activities as to those of forces halfway around the world.

The CMC or the Italo-American Hotel Corporation (into which

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, March 14, 1967.

<sup>22</sup> *Le Devoir*, March 16, 1967.



of the former turned) are, relates *Paisa Sera*, "also linked to other names which have appeared recently in the yellow press; another sign that, taking part in the same groups as the CMC and its former members, are persons who are quite suspect.

"One of these persons is Faruk Churbagi, the young Lebanese-Egyptian industrialist who was killed in Rome under still unexplained circumstances. It is said in groups around the former CMC that shortly before he was killed, the young man had turned over 200 million lire as dues for participation in the activities of the Centro. . . ."

And then there was the German Christa Wanniger, connected to the CMC by business dealings and "personal friendships," who was stabbed to death in Via Veneto under [apparently inevitably] unexplained circumstances."<sup>23</sup>

However, to return to areas of CMC endeavors about which a fragment or two more is known.

*Le Devoir* elaborates on Bloomfield, noting that he was active in the espionage arm of the U.S. government during World War II and "was at the time the principal shareholder in a society having headquarters in Switzerland and affiliated with the Centro Mondiale Commerciale in Rome, known as Permindex. Other shareholders in Permindex were banks of a more or less shadowy character with headquarters in Liechtenstein, plus Miami Astaldo Vaduz, De Famaco Vaduz, and the Credit Bank of Geneva. Among the directors, the name of Max Hagemann was noted, director of the *National Zeitung*, a newspaper specializing in anti-Communist diatribes. Whatever the case may be, the Centro Commerciale and Permindex got into difficulties with the Italian and Swiss governments. They refused to testify to the origins of considerable amounts of money, the sources of which are, to say the least, uncertain, and they never seemed to engage in actual commercial transactions. These companies were expelled from Switzerland and Italy in 1962 and then set up headquarters in Johannesburg."<sup>24</sup>

Another individual described by *Paisa Sera* as a "high level financial backer" was one Dr. David Biegun, "national secretary of the National Committee for Labor Israel, Inc., whose offices are in New York. Biegun was the person who actually handled the liquidation of the agency (CMC), receiving considerable credit for this, though officially 'unknown to the banks.'"<sup>25</sup>

"A short time [after its inauguration]," reports *Paisa Sera*,

<sup>23</sup> *Paisa Sera*, March 4, 1967.

<sup>24</sup> *Le Devoir*, March 16, 1967.

<sup>25</sup> *Paisa Sera*, March 18, 1967.



when the enormous Centro began to show the true face of its organization with very precise goals, which were anything but commercial, certain persons in Parliament became interested. Odo Spadazzi presented the question to the Chamber. But when the news came out, Spadazzi quickly withdrew. Shortly thereafter, he became [the new] president of the CMC.

While under the presidency of Spadazzi, the Centro was again questioned by the Christian Democrat Mario Ceravolo, who asked for an accounting of all of the activities of the Centro. Ceravolo, a member of the CMC's Board of Directors . . . had been a member of the board since its founding. Since then, he had seen money spent left and right, and had also seen that no commercial activities were being concluded. He wanted to know where the money was going and where it was coming from, but could get no accurate response. At this point, in 1962, he returned [sic; resigned?] from the board and directly demanded the bankruptcy of the Centro, obtaining a confiscation of two million lire.<sup>26</sup>

The Centro's attorneys immediately assured one and all that "the CMC is straightening itself out" and was "now in the process of complete recovery." A recovery which never occurred.

It was these curious and mostly untraceable manipulations which led Ceravolo to make public the following letter:

I refer to the article concerning Clay Shaw which appeared in your paper [*Paesa Sera*] of 4 March 1967. My name was mentioned therein.

To avoid misunderstandings and false interpretations, I ask that you please publish the fact that I left the administrative board of the CMC on 25 July 1962 because it was no longer possible to understand the sources of great sums of money obtained abroad by Mr. Giovanni [Giorgio] Mantello, and the real destination of this money.

I was the first to call for the bankruptcy of the CMC and of Mr. Mantello, which paid their representatives, administrators, employees, etc. according to their own pleasure. The magistrate did not wish to grant the request for bankruptcy which I, first of all, presented against the Centro.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, March 11-12, 1967.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

The letter is clear, and so is the question it poses. Who was giving virtually unlimited sums of money to the CMC and who was getting it? And for what?

In less than five years of activities which seemed to begin nowhere, go nowhere, and accomplish little or nothing, while receiving from unnamed sources and delivering to anonymous persons and causes vast sums of money, the CMC found reason to change its presidents or directors ten times, or on an average of every six months, although the men controlling its destinies—whatever they may be—are always the same. "Among its possible involvements (supported by the presence in directive posts of men deeply committed to European organizations of the extreme right)," comments *Paese Sera*, "is that the Centro was a creature of the CIA . . . set up as a cover for the transfer of CIA . . . funds in Italy for illegal political-espionage activities. It still remains to clear up the presence on the administrative board of the CMC of Clay Shaw and ex-Major Bloomfield."<sup>28</sup>

"It is a fact," the newspaper subsequently commented, "that the CMC . . . is nevertheless the point of contact for a number of persons who, in certain respects, have somewhat equivocal ties whose common denominator is an anti-communism so strong that it would swallow up all those in the world who have fought for decent relations between East and West, including Kennedy."<sup>29</sup>

A mysterious financial manipulator and a former Hungarian premier who supported the military right-wing OAS, kept close ties with the CIA and went halfway around the world to live in Dallas, both of whom were accused of "criminal activities" by the Swiss press. These are two of Shaw's European associates. A former member of Mussolini's cabinet, father-in-law to the daughter of Hitler cabinet minister Hjalmar Schacht, and the leader of a national Fascist organization. Two more who sat on the CMC board with Shaw. A mysterious ex-spy and a man who resigns from the organization out of conscience. Two more of Shaw's companions in business in Rome.

Surely a strange assortment of colleagues for an "old-fashioned liberal of the Wilson-Roosevelt persuasion." But then, the Centro Mondiale Commerciale and Fernindex are curious operations, as has become evident.

Clay Shaw's name first appeared in the Rome newspapers in relationship to the CMC on February 14, 1962, in *Paese Sera*, but, as that

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, March 4, 1967.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, March 14, 1967.



journal itself said, his "name did not have, at the time, any particular significance." Later that was to alter, of course.

"There have been great repercussions from the revelations of *Paesa Sera*," remarked that publication in its March 6, 1967, issue, "concerning the connection between Clay Shaw, the man incriminated by D.A. Garrison in the Kennedy assassination, and the World Trade Center (CMC) which was [until] recently working in Rome. The information we published was amply followed up by all the Italian dailies. *Il Giorno* of Milan, *La Gazzetta del Popolo* of Turin, *De La Sera* in Rome, even *Il Tempo*, which wrote 'the businessman accused by D.A. Garrison was among the administrators of the CMC. . . .'"<sup>30</sup>

"... the lawyer d'Amelio," continued *Paesa Sera*; "... confirmed Shaw's presence on the administrative board of the CMC at the time he [d'Amelio] was its President." Subsequently d'Amelio called Shaw "the inventor" of this type of commercial organization. Unfortunately, no one seemed to know quite what kind of organizations the CMC and Permindex were. One of the few things public about them—if one looked—was that Clay Shaw of New Orleans was a member of both of their boards.

"D'Amelio has tried to justify Shaw's presence (in the CMC and on its Board of Directors)," says the newspaper, "by the fact that Shaw 'has organized in New Orleans a permanent trade exhibit like the one which we wanted to set up in Rome,' and therefore 'through courtesy, we offered Shaw a position on the administrative board.'"

"D'Amelio did not speak of the activities of Ferenc Nagy who, through the CMC's head office, Permindex, had financed [Jacques] Soustelle at the OAS; he did not know that several Swiss newspapers had called the activities of Nagy and Mandel [Mantello] 'criminal'; and he did not speak of the completion of the CMC (nor could he, since [in terms of publicly announced intentions]) this has turned out to be nothing but tremendous failure."<sup>31</sup>

On March 14 *Paesa Sera* observed that Clay Shaw had "confirmed everything" it had reported regarding his European alliances. "That is say," it wrote, "that he has declared that he had been, in effect, administrative advisor to the CMC. Shaw, however, has tried to minimize the importance of this, saying that he had accepted the position 'in exchange two New Orleans-Rome airline tickets.'"<sup>32</sup>

Comments *Paesa Sera*: "According to American sources, Shaw left

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, March 6, 1967.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, March 14, 1967.



U.S. two days after the assassination of Kennedy and came to Europe, visiting, among other places, Italy."<sup>23</sup>

Further, it reports, "Clay Shaw, by his own admission, came to Rome during the time preceding the disbanding of the CMC."

Two enigmatic organizations, shadowy figures of finance, neo-Nazi, Fascist individuals manipulating interests in various areas including arms and oil, untold funds from unnamed origins funneled to unspecified ends—the information piles higher and higher, and one senses that one has barely begun to climb the mountain of mystery atop which these men sit and direct their unknown acts to unknown ends. However, to sum up very briefly Clay Shaw's role in this extraordinary drama, a final quote from *Paesa Sera* of March 6, 1957.

It is certain that Clay Shaw, who was arrested in New Orleans . . . (and, therefore, whether on true grounds or not, is a person who is certainly not limited to the quiet pursuit of his profession as a director of industry, but who must therefore have his finger in the pies of it is not clear what political activities) had a position on the board of the CMC in Rome.

It is certain that the CMC (taking advantage of the good faith of d'Angelo and of other Italians who were involved in that disastrous enterprise) has not fulfilled any of the activities for which it was originally projected.

It is certain that an important shareholder in the CMC was an ex-official of the American service.

Concerning the CMC and the organizations formed by Mandel, it is not clear on whose account many Hungarian refugees who were implicated in espionage activities were working, nor through what agencies large financial dealings in European political movements have been taking place.<sup>24</sup>

It was stated at the beginning of this examination of Clay Shaw's European participations and alliances that the entire matter of the CMC, Permindex, and the various presidents, directors, members of the boards, shareholders, theoretical and actual intentions, extra- and inter-organizational financial manipulations, far- and military-right sponsorings, and so forth, was so complicated as to require a book to cover what is known about these subjects, and that, even then, the most one could draw from would be iceberg visibility. However, it was felt that to under-

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, March 6, 1957.



stand anything of this strange man, Clay L. Shaw of New Orleans, and who knows where, the simple two-dimensional sketch offered to the public should be given the depth a more concrete mass of material would reveal.

One last point must be noted before we leave this particular area of inquiry. Seeking more information regarding the Centro Mondiale Commerciale, the author telephoned the office of the Italian Consul General in New York. After having received silence in response to requests for information in three successive steps, the author was turned over to an apparent superior. When the question "What can you tell me about the CMC in Rome?" was put, for the fourth time, to a man whom the entire series of exchanges indicated to be of considerable authority, he replied: "Why don't you contact the American Embassy?" "The American Embassy?" echoed the author, not a little surprised at the candor implied. "The American Embassy in Rome," the anonymous informant repeated. "But we are interested in the CMC as seen from the Italian perspective," the author explained. "Try the American Embassy, I can't help you any further." The gentleman was thanked for his assistance and the conversation concluded.<sup>25</sup>

In New Orleans, Clay L. Shaw is a distinguished citizen.

In Rome he was a key member of the boards of two highly recondite, clandestine organizations, numbering among his colleagues persons accused of "criminal activities" on an international level, Fascists, and victims of European assassinations.

Are they, in any way, reconcilable images?

The complexity of Shaw's associations does not end with the Centro Mondiale Commerciale and Permindex, but extends deeply into his personal relationships in Europe. His private address and telephone book, for example, carries the name and address of the wife of a well-known English Fascist, as well as the name, address, and private telephone number of Principessa Marcelle Borghese (now Duchessa de Bomartao), who is related to Prince Valerio Borghese, sometimes referred to as "the Black Prince," or "the New Duce," leader of the Movimento Sociale Italiano, the anti-British, anti-American neo-Fascist organization. The prince was a much-decorated midget-submarine commander during the war, following which he was tried and sentenced to twelve years in prison for cooperating with the Nazis after the Italian armistice with the Allies was signed. However, as he had spent four years in jail awaiting trial, after sentencing, the remaining prison period was suspended.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Author's private files.

<sup>26</sup> Dennis Eisenberg, *The Re-emergence of Fascism* (London, MacGibbon and Lee, 1967).



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БАГДАД, 6. (ТАСС). Президент Иракской Республики Абдель Рахман Ареф призвал арабские государства координировать свою нефтяную политику и расширить сотрудничество, чтобы не допустить превращения нефтяных богатств в объект политических интриг иностранных держав.

Президент Ирака выступил с призывом к арабским государствам в Багдаде 5-й конференции арабских стран по экспорту нефти. В конференции участвуют 20 держав — 20 из арабских государств и 150 делегатов нефтяных стран.

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Romero -  
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